

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action dated April 7, 2010 and the references cited by the Examiner have been given careful consideration. Following such consideration, claims 1, 12 and 13 have been amended to define more clearly the patentable invention applicant believes is disclosed herein. Claim 3 has been cancelled by the present amendment. Claims 4 and 11 were previously cancelled. Claims 2 and 5-10 are unchanged by the present amendment. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the claims in their present form, together with the following comments, and allow the application.

The present invention relates to a casing of a computer. A recess is formed in at least one wall of the casing. The recess extends toward an interior of the casing and includes at least one ventilation hole extending through a bottom of the recess. A cover is detachably affixed to a portion of the wall that forms the bottom of the recess. According to the present invention, an outer edge of the cover and the wall of the casing form a circumferential slot therebetween. Moreover, the cover and the wall define a *convoluted path* from the circumferential slot to the ventilation hole in the bottom of the recess. As best seen in FIG. 2 of the present patent application, the convoluted path from the circumferential slot to the ventilation hole includes two (2) turns.

During operation of the present invention, air is drawn from the exterior of the casing, through the circumferential slot, along the *convoluted path*, through the ventilation hole and into the interior of the casing. In particular, the air makes two (2) turns as the air is drawn along the

convoluted path. Because it is difficult for dirt and debris to make the turns in the convoluted path, dirt and debris cannot pass easily into the housing. The cover also acts as a sound barrier to hinder the conveyance of sound from the housing to the surrounding environment. The present invention, thus, provides a casing of a computer that reduces the transmission of noise and hinders the passage of dirt and debris into a computer.

Claims 1, 12 and 13 have been amended to define a casing of a computer wherein an outer edge of a cover and a wall of the housing form a circumferential slot therebetween and the cover and the wall define a convoluted path for drawing air from the circumferential slot to the opening in the wall.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 5-8, 10 and 12-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Herbst (DE 3828627) in view of Behl (US 6,185,097). Herbst discloses an electrical connection box. As seen in FIG. 1 of Herbst, air is conveyed out of the electrical box and into a room above the electrical box. In particular, Herbst discloses that the air exiting the electrical box is *laminar*. See translation of Abstract of Herbst. In other words, Herbst's discloses an electrical box wherein air flows through the cover of the electrical box in a *straight line*. The air exiting the electrical box is laminar to avoid creating disturbances in the room above the electrical box. Herbst does not teach, suggest or show a casing of a computer wherein an outer edge of a cover and a wall form a circumferential slot therebetween and wherein the cover and the wall define a *convoluted path* for drawing air from the circumferential slot to an opening in the wall, as defined in claims 1, 12 and 13.

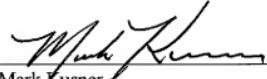
Behl discloses a housing for a memory storage device. Behl fails to teach, suggest or show the deficiencies noted above regarding Herbst. The remaining claims depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons stated above regarding claim 1.

The cited references made of record and not relied upon have also been reviewed. It is respectfully submitted that none of these additional references discloses or renders obvious the applicants' invention as defined by the present claims.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes there are any further matters that need to be discussed in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0537, referencing our Docket No. BE9139PCT(US).

Respectfully submitted,



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